

S.N. 10/804,352

RD-25755-10

Listing of claims:

1. (original) A system for transmitting and receiving utility meter data via a power line, said system comprising:

a plurality of utility meters adapted to measure utility usage of respective customers and to provide utility meter data based on said usage;

a power line extending between said customers so as to form a local area network;

a plurality of transceivers, each of said transceivers coupled to a corresponding utility meter and to said power line, said transceivers adapted to receive utility meter data provided by said utility meters and to transmit said utility meter data over said power line;

said transceiver including a receiver, said receiver adapted to receive said utility meter data from said power line, said receiver including at least one narrow band pass filter for filtering signals on said power line.

2. (original) The system recited in claim 1 wherein said narrow band pass filter has a pass band of less than about 10% of the center frequency of said band pass filter.

3. (original) The system recited in Claim 1 wherein said narrow band bass filter has a pass band of less than about 1% of the center frequency of said band pass filter.

4. (original) The system recited in claim 1 wherein the center frequency of said band pass filter is selectable.

5. (original) The system recited in claim 4 wherein the center frequency of said band pass filter is selectable between about 10KHz and about 100KHz.

6. (original) The system recited in claim 1 wherein said receiver is adapted to monitor said power line for the presence of radio frequency transmissions.

7. (original) The system recited in claim 1 wherein said receiver is adapted to detect utility meter data being transmitted over said power line.

8. (original) The transmitter of claim 8 wherein said transceiver includes a transmitter adapted to transmit data utilizing said clear frequencies identified by said receiver.

9. (original) The system of claim 1 wherein said transceiver is a Frequency Shift Keyed (FSK) transceiver.

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10. (original) A transceiver for transmitting and receiving utility meter data by means of a power line, said transmitter comprising:

a transmitter configured to transmit utility meter data over said power line;

a receiver configured to receive utility meter data over said power line;

said receiver including a narrow band pass filter configured to pass narrow band signals from said power line therethrough.

11. (original) The transceiver as recited in claim 10 adapted to detect the presence of radio frequency transmissions comprising customer utility meter data.

12. (original) The system as recited in claim 1 wherein said utility meters are selected from the group including a electric utility meter, a gas utility meter, and a water utility meter.

13. (original) The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said receiver is adapted to communicate said utility meter data via said local area network to a central database.

14. (original) The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said receiver is adapted to communicate the utility meter data from each respective utility meter within said local area network to a remote interrogator.

Claims 15-56 (canceled).